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ESTATE
APPRAISALS

Donald A. Mituzas

NUMISMATIST
P.O. Box 405
Harrison, New York 10528

[redacted]

August 2, 1989

Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Eric,

Thank you for writing to request my list of Colonial coins and reference books.

I don't know how much help my list of reference books will be to you as it was geared to the novice collector to help them get started in the Colonial coinage area. The article in Coin World was misleading in that it gave the impression that I had a book on colonials available.

I would like to say how much I enjoyed your recent monograph on counterfeit British style halfpence in the recent Museum Notes. I might also add that your "A Recently Discovered Coin Solves a Vermont Numismatic Enigma" from the 1958 ANS Centennial Publication. is one of the most fascinating pieces ever written on Colonials. Should you ever come upon an extra 1776 Machins V.9-76B, I would certainly be interested in purchasing it.

If you have any questions on any of the coins on my list, please don't hesitate to drop me a note of give me a call.

Yours truly,

Donald A. Mituzas

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

August 19, 1993

Mr. Donald A. Mituzas
P.O. Box 867
Croton Falls, NY 10519

Dear Don:

Your data on Vlack 14-84A is most appreciated.

The next time I visit my pieces, I will weigh them and study their die alignment.

It will interest you that I insisted that Vlack include this item in his list even though he argued that it wasn't a Machin's piece. As I told you, I think it is made by a different coiner in Connecticut and was mentioned in the 1785 Connecticut law.

To improve your pictures, I believe you should have a second light shining from some angle near the top. This is a very shallow coin and needs every kind of contrast.

Naturally, I would like a nice photo of your 1747 and suggest that you examine it very carefully for an undercoin.

My best to you,

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:bv

Donald A. Mituzas
NUMISMATIST
P.O. Box 867
Croton Falls, N.Y. 10519
[redacted]

September 17, 1993

Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Eric,

As per your request, enclosed please find my five examples of the 1784 North Swansea Imitation Halfpence, Vlack 14-84A.

These are certainly an interesting early American product. Their crude workmanship and emaciated impression of King George set them apart from most of the contemporary pieces. It is unfortunate that the one example I own that shows some detail on the shield is troubled by porosity. Neither the Vlack plate, Breen plate or Roper piece (plated in the B&M Taylor sale lot #3056) give much of an indication of what might be on the shield.

I don't know what other areas of contemporary counterfeits you are interest in, but I also have a 1786 Nova Constellatio (Crosby plate coin, ex Mass. Historical Soc.) and a 1787 Nova Eborac "Small Head" (from New Netherlands 51st sale, listed as being your duplicate coin) should you wish to study them.

Ever since reading your essay "A Recently Discovered Coin Solves A Vermont Numismatic Enigma" in the 1958 ANS Centennial Publication, I have sought ownership of a 1776 Machins Mills halfpence V.9-76B for my collection. Should you know of one for sale, please feel free to forward my name, address and phone number to the owner.

Yours truly,

Don

Donald A. Mituzas

בס"ד

Louis and Sarah Block Yeshiva High School

9723 Grandview Drive St. Louis, MO. 63132 (314) 997-3940

Rabbi Gary Menchel
Principal

Dear Eric,

Sorry about the delay. I hope this helps you a little. Call me if you have other questions [redacted]ome)or at school 997-3940. See page #127 of my thesis.

All The Best.

Sincerely,

Don (Makovsky)

P.S. My best to Evelyn

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Donald A. Mituzas
P.O. Box 867
Croton Falls, NY 10519

September 27, 1993

Dear Don:

It was refreshing to talk to you and exchange thoughts on counterfeit halfpence.

I examined my 1784 pieces and find all of them have the reverse at about 90 degrees to the obverse.
My three weigh

about unc.	94.9
f.	100.1
v.g.	92.2

I return herewith your five pieces which you sent for examination, and which weigh 91.0, 95.0, 95.6, 96.3 and 98.5 grains. Only your lightest one has the reverse in proper 180 degree position.
It is nice of you to give one to ANS if they need it. Please check with John Kleeberg.
I am sorry I have no 9-76B for you but will keep my eyes open.

Keep up the fun.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

Donald A. Mituzas
NUMISMATIST
P.O. Box 867
Croton Falls, N.Y. 10519
[redacted]

August 30, 1993

Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Ave.
St. Louis, MO 63105

Dear Eric,

I'm glad you think the data I sent you on the Vlack 14-84A's may be of some use. There is also an example in the coming Stack's sale, which I will also try to purchase. Should I be successful, I'll send you data on that specimen. Are you aware of a V.14-84A in the ANS collection? I was planning of releasing a few of my specimens, as I don't need five or six, and would be glad to donate one to the ANS collection should they not have one.

I have enclosed photos of the Vlack 1-47A that you requested. I studied the coin carefully and could find no evidence of an undercoin.

Should you ever decide you would like to examine any of these coins in the copper, just drop me a note and I'll send them out.

Yours truly,

Don

Donald A. Mituzas

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Donald A. Mituzas
P.O. Box 867
Croton Falls, NY 10519

September 3, 1993

Dear Don:

Your expression of generosity to the ANS is most appreciated. Their modern curator is on research leave at the moment and I believe you should await his return in a couple of weeks. Even if they have an example you might be able to improve on its condition.

I would certainly like to study your examples and to check their thickness among other things. The dies must have been very shallow and made by an inexperienced craftsman.

Thank you for your pictures of the 1747 counterfeit. You will note that the fictitious date was made up of punches for a 1, 7, & 4. The grain weight of the coin is made up of the same numbers. How's that for coincidence ?

I'll bet the 1747 diemaker cut his head punch facing the wrong way and had to use George II and a George II date to legitimize his error. He probably did this in 1787.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN/ts

(1747) Machins Mills
Vlack 1-47A 174.4 grains
Mituzas Collection
Die Alignment ↑↑

(1747) Machins Mills
Vlack 1-47A 174.4 grains
Mituzas Collection
Die Alignment ↑↑

Donald A. Mituzas February 11, 1994

[redacted]

Dear Donald:

Thanks for the information on the new 1784 counterfeit.

If you wish to improve our collection in that regard we are a not for profit foundation and you can get a tax deduction for full value on any coin you have held for a year or more. Our best piece is not very strong. If you preferred to give us a nice one and take ours in exchange then you would be giving the excess value of your better one. I didn't want to deprive you of this opportunity now that ANS doesn't need one.

I do not believe there is a list of the Stepney coins. Walter never had one and he worked for Stack's. He wrote up the Stepney hoard. When I bought some Machins from Stack's Walter told me the nice Vermonts and Connecticuts had been removed when he saw the group. Stack's may not have known what was in there in the beginning and were asked several times where the coins really came from. Stacks could have added other Connecticuts to the group as nobody got very excited about what was left of a picked hoard. I think Stacks sold many of them to a Connecticut collector whose name evades me now.

I hope I have been slightly helpful.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman